

March 29, 2010

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

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From:

To:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

DRINKING WATER QUALITY STUDY (ITEM 30-A, AGENDA OF DECEMBER 22, 2009)

On December 22, 2009, in a motion submitted by Supervisor Antonovich resulting from a study conducted by the Environmental Working Group (EWG) on the quality of drinking water nationwide in which the City of Los Angeles was included, your Board directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM), the Director of Public Health (DPH), and the Director of Public Works (DPW) to re-test the quality of water in the City of Los Angeles. The Director's were also instructed to confer with State health officials, Los Angeles City Department of Water and Power (LADWP), and Metropolitan Water District (MWD) in reviewing the report of the EWG and report back to the Board with recommendations within 90 days. This is the first status report on this motion.

In order to satisfy the requirements of this motion, the participating County departments first needed to obtain the permission of LADWP and MWD to collect water samples from their respective treatment plants, pump stations, and distribution systems. Permission from the aforementioned agencies was granted on January 27, 2010. The participating County departments collected samples and laboratory tests were conducted to determine the possible presence of any harmful chemical contaminants. However, due to the fact that the County does not have regulatory authority with respect to the water provided by DWP and MWD, the participating departments will request that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) review the laboratory results and determine if those samples indicate that the drinking water within the City of Los Angeles is safe to consume. Following the review of said lab results, the CEO, DPH, DPW, and ACWM will report back to the Board with their findings in 90 days.

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Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me or your staff can contact Jackie White, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Public Safety, at (213) 893-2374.

WTF:BC:JAW SW:DC:llm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures
 Public Health
 Public Works

Drinking Water Quality Study.bm.032910